

**1. N38,50.005 W097,35.195**

From this spot you can see three river channels. Looking south is the original Smoky Hill River. Looking north this river channel was cut through the hill in the early 1960's as part of the City's Flood Control System. Looking west you will notice a small channel that was once the original river channel before the Flood Control Project. The concrete structure before you is the river inlet for the City of Salina water plant. The City receives about 50% of its water directly from the Smoky Hill River.

**2. N38,49.972 W097,35.341**

You are standing on part of a dike system built in the early 60's that encircles most of the city to prevent flooding from the Smoky Hill River and Mulberry Creek. Under your feet is the river inlet gate used to control the amount of river water that flows into the old river channel. This is the approximate location of the Upper Mill that produced flour from 1870 to 1874.

**3. N38,49.837 W097,36.247**

Salina built its first swimming pool in the mid 1920's, but before then the river was used for swimming. This location was a popular site for swimming until the street was put in and people complained about the naked swimmers. There was also a developed swimming area across the river from Blue Jay Stadium that featured diving boards and a bath house.

**4. N38,49.918 W097,36.023**

Kenwood Park was purchased by the City in 1917 and for a short time featured a nine hole golf course. In 1929, the City leased the site to the county for the location of the Saline County Fair. Before the construction of the Salina Bicentennial Center the site had a number of baseball fields and a football field where the new Kenwood Cove Aquatic Park is located. Just east of this location is the Saline County Demonstration Gardens.

**5. N38,50.032 W097,36.383**

First developed in 1881 as a location for the county fair, Oakdale is Salina's oldest park. In 1922, the City of Salina signed a 50 year lease with the county for use of Oakdale as a city park. Since that time Oakdale has become Salina's premier park. In the mid 1930's the north part of the park was developed into a botanical garden where thousands of annual flowers are planted every year. Across the river from this site is the City of Salina Water Plant. Just south of the walk bridge was once the site of the Ole Overfelt boat dock. The boat dock operated until the early 1960's when the completion of the flood control system around Salina doomed the use of boats on the old river.

**6. N38,50.422 W097,36.417**

In 1885, Alexander Campbell constructed a ferry at this location using timbers from a bridge washed out upstream. For nine years this free ferry was the main way to cross the river. The Iron Street Bridge is not a bridge but actually a square tube that is lower than the top of the dam. This creates an area where trash cannot pass. Because the old river channel acts as a drainage system for most of the town, any trash dumped in the streets ends up in the old river.

**7. N38,50.485 W097,36.354**

Salina developed as a milling town; this dam served as power for the most successful mill for many years. Today the dam still serves a purpose as a control feature on the flood control system. The gate in the background can be opened or closed to control the level of water upstream. This was also the site of a movie location in 1955 when "Picnic" was filmed in Salina.

**8. N38,50.576 W097,36.208**

On the corner of Ash and Front Streets is the oldest existing building in Salina. This is actually two buildings put together, a carpenter shop and a broom factory. The back third of the building is the original carpenter shop built in 1860. Into the 1950's, the entire building was used to make brooms and at one time employed 50 people.

**9. N38,50.792 W097,36.096**

This site marks the location of Riverside Park where not only a low water ford was located, but the first structure in town, a small log dugout, was built. A replica of this dugout is on display in the Smoky Hill Museum. The old concrete structure across the channel is the hot water dam where warm waste water was dumped from the KP&L power plant located at 401 North Third Street.

**10. N38,50.671 W097,35.599**

This bridge, which is a National Historical Structure, was originally located on Ohio Street where Ohio Street crosses the river just north of where it is today. When Ohio Street was widened in the 50's the bridge was relocated to the south entrance of Lakewood Park where it served for many years. A few years ago the old bridge was relocated to its present site. It now serves as a pedestrian bridge to Lakewood Middle School and for the future Smoky Hill River Trail.

**11. N38,50.501 W097,35.203**

Once the site of the Pitman Sand Company today it is Salina's largest park, Lakewood. Lakewood Park contains a small lake, nature areas, and the Lakewood Discovery Center. This plot of land has an interesting beginning. In the 1860's, the original 160 acres were granted to the widow of Big-Fire-in-the-Woods, a Seneca chief who served in the War of 1812. The lake in Lakewood Park also serves as a reservoir in times of heavy rainfall within the City.

**12. N38,50.768 W097,34.611**

This marks the spot where the old river channel flows under the flood control dike. In times of heavy rain the gate is closed and the water is pumped over the dike to the river.

**13. N38,50.152 W097,35.180**

The river channel you are looking at is not the original channel, but a ditch that was excavated in the early 1960's as part of the Flood Control System. The river drops quickly over a short distance causing the waterfall you see today. For many years this has been a popular fishing area.

**14. N38,49.992 W097,35.338**

This is a great vantage point to look out over the City. Looking south from this location you will see the soccer fields. If you look closely you may notice a darker green area in the fields. This is the original river channel that was filled in when the channel was cut to the west. The old river channel is running below you. Looking south 150 years ago you may have seen Indians camping as this was a favorite camping ground.



**SMOKY HILL  
RIVER  
TREASURES**

**A GPS  
GUIDED  
TOUR**

Located along the old river channel in Salina are 14 historical and point of interest sites that can be found using the listed GPS coordinates. All sites are located within 100' of the river channel. Handheld GPS devices are available for rent at Lakewood Discovery Center. Be mindful that although all the sites are on public land, some areas along the old channel are private property.

**City of Salina**

Parks and Recreation Department